



HOME ABOUT RANDY SERVING YOU NEWSROOM OUR DISTRICT CONTACT   

## In this Issue:

- [In and Around the District](#)
- [Join My #STEMScholars Program!](#)
- [Protect Veteran Credit Ratings](#)
- [My Take on...](#)
- [...Turkey](#)
- [...the Appointment of a Special Counsel](#)
- [...the Administration's Budget Request](#)
- [Countering Religious-Based Violence](#)
- [Protecting Children](#)
- [National Police Week](#)
- [Randy in the News](#)

---

## In and Around the District



(Rep. Hultgren addresses crowd at MCC groundbreaking)

McHenry County College broke ground on a two-story, 22,000-square-foot Liebman Science Center to better meet the needs of students. It includes labs for science work, a cadaver lab, student resource lab, a lecture hall, two prep rooms and a planetarium. [Click here to read about the celebration.](#)



(Rep. Hultgren tours Medela facility in McHenry)

Medela, manufacturer of breast pumps and related breastfeeding products, is an important employer in the 14th District, housing 800 of their 900 employees in their McHenry headquarters. Human milk's documented health benefits have an exponential impact in reducing long-term medical costs. The company focuses on supporting mothers' efforts to provide breast milk to their babies for as long as they can.

I recently enjoyed visiting their facility and speaking to more than 200 employees at their "employee town hall" to hear what issues are on their minds and talk about my work in Congress.





(Rep. Hultgren discusses current issues with Medela employees)

## Join My #STEMScholars Program!



(Click picture to watch video)

Last year, 19 high school students from across the 14th District became the first class of STEM Scholars, and delved deep into the hands-on opportunities provided by the program. #STEMScholars is de

signed to expose students to STEM careers and to build STEM leadership qualities and skills. STEM Scholars grow their leadership skills through presentations, higher-level discussions and on-site visits to some of the 14th District's premier facilities.

The STEM Scholars program runs from September 2017 through April 2018. The deadline to apply is July 31. For more information and to apply online, [visit my website here](#).

---

## Protect Veteran Credit Ratings

Enough veterans have faced collateral damage from delays at the VA. This time, payment delays have placed large and inaccurate medical debts on our veterans while the VA bureaucracy and private providers work through billing issues. This has hurt veterans' credit ratings and their ability to buy a home or a car, or be hired for a new job.

Veterans and their families deserve accurate and timely billing and reimbursements from the VA.

Along with 19 Democrats and Republicans I have reintroduced legislation to ensure our veterans aren't held responsible for bureaucratic ineptitude. The [Protecting Veterans Credit Act, H.R. 2683](#), has been endorsed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), the American Legion, Wounded Warrior Project, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low income clients) and the Consumer Federation of America.

---

## My Take on...

### ...Turkey

You may have seen the disturbing images and news reports detailing the [attack on American citizens and legal residents](#) by Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan's security detail during his official visit to the United States on May 16. This may be how they deal with dissenters in Turkey, but here in America that's against the law.

A number of Members of Congress and I sent a letter to Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson demanding justice for the “remorseless acts of violence.”

Our country is founded on the rights of free speech and freedom of peaceful assembly. President Erdogan’s security team’s brazen assault is outrageous and follows a disturbing pattern.

Specifically, the letter asks that Turkish personnel based in the U.S. who were involved in the attacks should be declared *persona non grata* and expelled from the country immediately, and Turkish personnel not based in the United States who were involved in the attacks should be barred from entry in the future.

Foreign leaders, diplomats and staff are invited guests of our nation, and they should act as such. All of those involved—at all levels—must be held accountable.

In addition, the Helsinki Commission and the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission together sent a letter to President Trump ahead of President Erdogan’s visit, using President Trump to seek guarantees that several U.S. citizens currently jailed in Turkey will have their cases promptly and fairly adjudicated and receive full consular assistance, including Andrew Brunson, an American pastor, and Serkan Golge, a NASA scientist, both of whom were arrested in Turkey following the coup. President Trump did raise the case of Mr. Brunson, and we urge quick action on behalf of all detained.

[Click here to read the full letter.](#)

---

## ...the Appointment of a Special Counsel

The appointment of former FBI Director Robert Mueller to serve as special counsel on Russia’s involvement in the 2016 election is a welcome addition to the House’s ongoing effort to establish the facts. Mueller proved himself as a well-respected and professional law enforcement official during his 12 years at the helm of the FBI. We all just want the facts to come out. Mueller’s fair and even-handed approach will ensure he follows the evidence, brings forth the facts and illuminates the truth.

## ...the Administration's Budget Request

President Trump's outline of his budget priorities acknowledges our fiscal crisis and the need to make a serious effort to address Washington's out-of-control spending, waste and abuse. I welcome his outline as we begin the budget discussion.

Keep in mind Congress is charged with establishing the budget, spending and revenues. This request's proposed cuts and spending allocations simply reflect the President's priorities. It is a proposal, not law.

Now it is Congress' turn. As Congress writes the budget, I believe it should reflect the people we represent, which is why I want to hear from you on what your priorities are.

We face difficult choices as we work to continue to grow jobs, protect our nation and reduce the deficit and our nearly \$20 trillion national debt. I look forward to working with you and my colleagues to craft a fiscal year 2018 spending package that sets forth our priorities to ensure fiscal accountability while promoting economic growth.

## Countering Religious-Based Violence



Global restrictions on freedom of belief, including both government repression and hostile acts from individuals and groups in society, are on the rise as confirmed by the Pew Research Center, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and others. The attack this week on Coptic Christians in Egypt which killed at least 28 is only the latest horrifying example. Attacks on and harassment of



Rohingya Muslims, Tibetans, Hoa Hao Buddhists in Vietnam and others continue.

According to Pew, in 2015, the latest year for which they have data, “there were increases in these two measures – harassment and use of physical force – in almost all major regions of the globe, including sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, the Asia-Pacific region, and Europe. In fact, government harassment of religious groups was the most widespread it has been since 2007, the first year for which we have data.”

I co-chaired a hearing to find out answers: Why are global restrictions on religion increasing, and how can U.S. international religious freedom policies prevent and counter religious violence? Are current U.S. policies on religious freedom achieving their desired outcomes?

[Click here for video of the hearing and full witness testimony.](#)

---

## Protecting Children



Every child deserves to have a safe childhood. That’s why we voted on several bills to protect our children and punish abusers. Learn more: <https://judiciary.house.gov/issue/preventing-crimes-against-children/>.

---



## National Police Week

Since 1962 National Police Week has been a way to honor those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice. We [voted on several bills](#) designed to honor their sacrifices and ensure that these brave women and men who serve us have the tools needed to do their job and keep the public safe. I delivered the following floor statement:



(Click picture to watch video)

If you haven't already, be sure to [like my Facebook page](#), follow me on Twitter ([@RepHultgren](#)), or [check out my YouTube page](#) to stay informed on everything I'm doing on your behalf in Washington and in Illinois.

In Your Service,



*Randy Hultgren  
Member of Congress  
14th District, Illinois*

---

## Randy in the News

- [US lawmakers ask Washington to expel Turkish security after brawl](#) (CGTN America)
- [A Battle for Hearts and Minds: How the Non-Violent Can Fight Violence Against Religion](#) (CBN News)
- [Letter: As insurers leave Illinois, we need the GOP's health care plan now more than ever](#) (Chicago Tribune)
- [Suburban congressman opposing federal efforts to tax municipal bonds](#) (Illinois News Network)
- [Special counsel reaction: GOP reps approve, Dems want more](#) (Crain's Chicago Business)
- [MCC breaks ground on \\$16.8 million science center; ready to start construction](#) (Northwest Herald)
- [Op-ed: Who Will Protect Consumers From The Consumer "Protection" Bureau?](#) (The Daily Caller)

**Washington, DC Office**

2455 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: 202-225-2976  
Fax: 202-225-0697

**McHenry Office**

1500 State Route 31  
McHenry, IL 60050  
Phone: 815-679-6352  
Fax: 815-679-6551

**Campton Hills Office**

40W310 Lafox Road, Suite F2  
Campton Hills, IL 60175  
Phone: 630-584-2734  
Fax: 630-584-2746

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

---